

REMARKS:

Applicant has carefully considered the Office Action mailed September 15, 2004. Reconsideration of the application in view of this amendment in response thereto is respectfully requested.

The Examiner correctly presumed that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned by the inventors at the time any inventions covered therein were made.

Claims 70-101 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-6 of U.S. Patent No. 6,341,236. Enclosed herewith is a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c) which should overcome the obviousness-type double patenting rejection. U.S. Patent No. 6,341,236 and this application are commonly owned.

Claims 70-89 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Summarizing, original claims 90-101 and new claims 102-106 should now be in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if it is felt that the prosecution of this application may be expedited thereby.

Respectfully submitted,
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